

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please substitute the following paragraphs for the corresponding paragraphs beginning at the indicated location in the specification as originally filed.

(Page 1, Lines 9+):

As ~~publicly~~ is well known, the flexible disk drive is an apparatus for ~~conducting~~ recording and reproduction of data with respect to a magnetic recording medium (a flexible disk) in a shape of disc which has been inserted into the apparatus. Generally, the flexible disk drive of this type includes a magnetic head for ~~conducting~~ reading and writing the data with respect to the flexible disk which is the magnetic recording medium, a carriage assembly which supports this magnetic head at its tip end ~~in such a manner so~~ that the magnetic head can move along a radial direction of the flexible disk, a stepping motor which drives the carriage assembly to move along the radial direction, and a DD (direct drive) motor such as a spindle motor which holds the flexible disk and drives it to rotate.

(Page 1, Lines 25+):

The flexible disk drive of this type is mainly installed in a personal computer of various kinds. However, in case of a portable ~~type~~ electronic apparatus ~~such as (e.g., a laptop computer, a notebook computer, a notebook word processor, etc.), for example,~~ the flexible disk drive is, ~~in many cases,~~ usually separate from and connected to a main body of the apparatus for use as a so-called external type drive, ~~separately from the main body.~~

(Page 1, Lines 33+):

~~By the way, with a tendency of reducing a~~ Recently, there has been a tendency to reduce the thickness of the above described portable type electronic apparatus. ~~in recent years, reduction~~ Reduction in thickness of the flexible disk drive to be internally installed in ~~the apparatus~~ or externally connected to the apparatus has been also promoted. In order to attain such reduction in thickness ~~and downsizing (minimization)~~ of the flexible

disk drive, various regulations ~~and (restrictions)~~ restrictions have to be are imposed on components of the flexible disk drive. In other words, because the restrictions ~~are~~ have increased while ~~a space should be saved (the thickness is reduced)~~ has decreased, ~~there is a direction (tendency) that a margin for designing will be decreased~~ the design margin will decrease.

(Page 2, Lines 14+):

Under such circumstances, ~~it has been~~ maintaining strength is a serious problem ~~to maintain strength~~, particularly in the flexible disk drive of the external type. For example, ~~in case of the flexible disk drive of the external type~~, when an outer force is applied to a cover (a case) of the external type drive, the cover will be flexed and a position of the magnetic head fixed thereto will be lowered. As ~~the results~~ a result, there is a possibility ~~such probability that a phenomenon, which is inherent in a flat type flexible disk~~, that the magnetic head and the flexible disk will abut against each other ~~may occur, which is inherent in a flat type flexible disk~~. The flexible disk drive of the external type has many factors of receiving outer forces, for example, something may be placed on the flexible disk drive or something may strike the drive, and therefore, it is an urgent necessity to solve the problem.

(Page 5, Lines 28+):

Fig. 2 shows an area around the insertion inlet of the disk holder 1 in an enlarged scale. As described above, the tip end portion 3a of the top plate 3 and the tip end portion 4a of the bottom plate 4 are diagonally bent. In Fig. 2, the tip end portion 3a of the top plate 3 has such bending angle and length that the tip end portion 3a may be positioned at a same level as the case 5, and has such a structure that the tip end portion 3a may be in contact with an inner face of the case 5 to bear it. The disk holder 1 is formed of a sheet metal, and the top plate 3 is formed of the same and applied to the disk holder 1. Accordingly, the tip end portion 3a of the top plate 3 has high mechanical strength, and the strength of the disk holder 1 (the tip end portion 3a of the top plate 3) can prevent the case 5 from being flexed with a load from ~~the~~ above.

(Page 6, Lines 11+):

Moreover, the disk holder 1 is mounted to an internal mechanism in the case 5 through a support shaft 6, which functions as a pivot. When the load from the above is applied as described above, the tip end portion 3a of the disk holder 1 will bear the flexure of the case 5. On this occasion, the forward end (near the insertion inlet of the flexible disk) of the disk holder 1 is depressed. Then, the disk holder 1 rotates around the support shaft 6 as the pivot by an action of a lever, and a backward part 1b of the disk holder 1 is lifted. As ~~the results~~ a result, a backward part of the case 5 is lifted. In the flexible disk drive, one of the magnetic head assemblies is fixed to a side of the case 5. Therefore, when the backward part of the case 5 is lifted, the magnetic head assembly is also lifted accordingly, and functions so that butting between the magnetic head and the flexible disk may be prevented.